



Statement of Maryland Rural Health Association (MRHA)

To Ways and Means Committee

Chair: Delegate Vanessa E. Atterbeary

January 29, 2024

House Bill 0160: Elementary and Secondary Schools - Workplace Readiness Week - Establishment

Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and members of the committee, the Maryland Rural Health Association (MRHA), is in SUPPORT of House Bill 0160: Elementary and Secondary Schools - Workplace Readiness Week - Establishment

We can all agree that the healthcare workforce is suffering severe shortages and that it's essential to have a prepared workforce to enter into jobs once they've graduated or moved on to higher education. According to an article by Timeforge, "Whether it's getting a job, starting a family, buying a home, or continuing their education, workforce readiness ensures that people can move forward and progress in life." We believe that students should be given every opportunity to succeed, and this will enable them to continue to thrive. We urge a favorable report.

*On behalf of the Maryland Rural Health Association,
Jonathan Dayton, MS, NREMT, CNE, Executive Director
jdayton@mdruralhealth.org*

<https://timeforge.com/blog/what-is-workforce-readiness/>